

Rev Amos A. Phelps
Boston
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To the Rev Amos A. Phelps

Dear Sir, By the Resolution of the foregoing Document, you will perceive that you & the other gentlemen named therein, are requested to represent the interests of the American Foreign Sabbath Union, in all Societies, whose meetings you may be able to attend, in Great Britain & on the Continent of Europe, which have for their object the promotion of the due observance of the Lord's Day.

Wishing that you & the other gentlemen mentioned, may be able to comply with the wishes of the Union I am, Dear Sir,

With great respect & esteem

Truly Yours &c -

Edw. Douglass
A. F. S. Union

Boston April 10, 1843.

The following officers were then appointed.

PRESIDENT.

THOMAS S. WILLIAMS,
Chief Justice of the State of Connecticut.

VICE PRESIDENT.

SAMUEL HUBBARD,
DANIEL SHARP,
DANIEL A. WHITE,
JOHN CODMAN,
ALFRED D. POSTER,
DAVID KILBURN,
MANTON EASTBURN,
FRANCIS WYLAND,
MARK TUCKER,
SETH TERRY,
NOAH PORTER,
STEPHEN OLIN,
JAMES MILBOR,
THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN,
THOMAS E. BOND,
ORIN DAY,
SPENCER H. CONE,
WILLIAM JAY,
ELIJAH HEDDING,
ARISTARCHUS CHAMPION,
HENRY DWIGHT,

REUBEN H. WALWORTH,
WILLIAM B. SPRAGUE,
EDWARD G. DELAYAN,
JOHN N. WILDER,
PETER D. VROOM,
BENJAMIN RICE,
JOSEPH C. HORNELOWEE,
DAVID MAGIE,
ALEXANDER HENRY,
CORNELIUS COYLER,
AMERSE WHITE,
ALBERT BARNES,
STEPHEN H. TYNG,
WILLIAM DARLING,
GEORGE B. IDE,
THOMAS FLEMING,
S. P. DORBIN,
WILLIAM JESUP,
MATTHEW BROVNS,
S. S. SCHMUCKER.

JUSTIN EDWARDS, *Secretary.*

H. M. WILLIS, *Recording Secretary.*

BENJAMIN PERKINS, *Treasurer.*

JULIUS A. PALMER, *Auditor.*

JOHN TAPPAN,
MOSES GRANT,
BENJAMIN SMITH,
BENJAMIN HOWARD,
JACOB SLEEPER,

*Executive
Committee.*

The following gentlemen were then elected as Corresponding Members, viz.

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| SIR ANDREW AGNEW, Scotland. | P. WHITE, Esq. England. |
| THOMAS CHALKERS, D. D. do. | REV. PASTOR VON GERLACH, Prussia. |
| W. DEALTRY, D. D. England. | REV. PASTOR KUNTZE, do. |
| JOSEPH WALSON, Esq. do. | CHEVALIER BUNSEN, Prussian Ambassador at the Court of St. James. |
| THOMAS HANKEY, Esq. do. | |
| HON. G. RYDER, do. | |

The following Resolutions were then adopted.

1. *Resolved*, That as the Sabbath was made for man, and the observance of it is essential to the highest social, civil, and religious interests of men, it is, in our view, not only the duty, but the right and the privilege of all men duly to observe it.

2. *Resolved*, That as the observance of the Sabbath, by increasing the knowledge and virtue of the community, tends powerfully to promote the purity and permanence of free institutions, no enlightened and consistent patriot will fail, conscientiously and habitually to observe it.

3. *Resolved*, That as it is asserted by high medical authority, that the law which requires a periodical cessation of worldly business, is not a positive, or moral institution merely, but is a *natural law*, which has its foundation in the nature of man; and facts are appealed to, in proof of the truth of this assertion; and that the violation of this law necessarily tends to lessen the health, injure the minds and destroy the lives of men, it is important that those facts should be collected and circulated throughout the community.

4. *Resolved*, That should ministers of the gospel, of all denominations, frequently preach on the subject, and exhibit the reasons for remembering the Sabbath and keeping it holy, it would tend greatly to promote the universal observance of that day.

5. *Resolved*, That should some good Sabbath Manual be put into every family; and all children in families and Sabbath schools be correctly and judiciously instructed; the principles which require a day of weekly rest from worldly business, the benefits which flow from an observance of those principles, and the evils which have followed, and which ever must follow a violation of them, it would tend powerfully to promote, not only their highest good, but the good of the world.

6. *Resolved*, That all persons who are acquainted with facts which show strikingly the duty and utility of keeping the Sabbath and the evils of violating it, are requested to put them on paper, and transmit them to the Secretary of this Union, No. 25 Cornhill, Boston, U. S. A.

7. *Resolved*, That as the employment of laborers seven days in a week, tends greatly to injure them as to health, morals, reputation, usefulness, and happiness, and is a peculiar hardship to the poor; tending to degrade them in their own estimation and the estimation of others, and to ruin their children; religion, philanthropy, patriotism, and humanity, all require that it should cease.

8. *Resolved*, That should the friends of the Sabbath, in any place, judge that it will tend to promote the due observance of that day, among themselves, to form a local Sabbath Union; and should no other form be deemed more suitable for that purpose, it is respectfully suggested to them, to adopt the following, viz:

"As the Sabbath was made for man, and the observance of it is essential to the highest social, civil, and religious interests of man, we hereby agree that we will endeavor, by example and other kind moral influence, to persuade all persons to abstain from worldly business, traveling and amusement, and to attend the public worship of God, on that day."

The consequences of forming such Associations composed of all heads of families and such members as are disposed to join them, may be expected to be,—

1. That the Sabbath will be better observed than it was before;
2. A larger number will attend public worship;
3. The way will be opened, should families be found who have not heretofore attended public worship, to attempt, by united example and kind moral influence, to induce them to perform that duty, and thus promote their own good, the good of their children, and of the community.

9. *Resolved*, That John Tappan, Esq., Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American and Foreign Sabbath Union, Thomas Sewall, M. D., of Washington, D. C., S. F. Durbin, D. D., President of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Penn., and Amos A. Phelps of Boston, be requested to represent the interests of this Union in all Societies for the promotion of the observance of the Sabbath in Great Britain, and on the Continent of Europe, whose meetings they may be able to attend.

A true copy from the Records

J. Edwards Sec. A. S. M.

Boston April 10. 1843.

Rev. J. Edwards
Com. of Sabb. Union.
Apr. 10, 1843.

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AMERICAN AND FOREIGN SABBATH UNION.

ACCORDING to public notice, a number of gentlemen met at the Old South Chapel, Boston, on the 27th of March, 1843, to consult upon the best ways and means of promoting universally the due observance of the Lord's Day. The Hon. SAMUEL T. ARMSTRONG was chosen President of the meeting, and RICHARD W. BAILEY, Esq. Secretary. After prayer for the Divine guidance and blessing, and such consultation as the case seemed to require, the subject was committed to a Committee of five, to consider, and report at a future meeting. A subsequent meeting was held at the same place, April 4, and the Committee made the following Report.

REPORT.

The Committee appointed by a number of gentlemen who met at the Old South Chapel on the evening of the 27th ult. to consider the best ways and means of promoting universally the due observance of the Lord's Day, and report, at a future meeting, have attended to that service, and offer the following Report, viz.

One of the best ways, in the judgment of your Committee, of promoting universally the due observance of the Lord's Day, and the one to which they would, at this time, particularly invite the attention of this meeting, is the formation of an Association, to be composed, at first, of such gentlemen present, as may be disposed to unite in it. And for this purpose, your Committee have unanimously agreed to recommend for consideration, the accompanying Constitution.

All which is respectfully submitted by

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| JUSTIN EDWARDS, | } Committee. |
| JACOB SLEEPER, | |
| MOSES GRANT, | |
| BENJ. SMITH, | |
| BENJ. HOWARD, | |

The Report was accepted.

The Constitution was then taken up and considered, and after being amended, was adopted as follows, viz.

CONSTITUTION.

As "the Sabbath was made for man," and the observance of it is essential to the highest social, civil, and religious interests of men; and as the violations of it are such as to call for special efforts to promote its universal observance; and as past efforts, though not without good effects, have failed to reach the extent, and produce a general cessation of the evil; and as some system of measures, and some course of action are necessary, which shall awaken general attention, and spread a knowledge of facts through the community; which shall lead to a union of example and to the exertion of a kind moral influence which shall be commensurate with the evil, and which shall be continued till that evil shall be done away, Therefore,

We, the subscribers, for the purpose of promoting our own good, and that of our fellow men, agree to form ourselves into an Association for the above mentioned object; and for that purpose, adopt the following Constitution, viz:

ARTICLE I.—This Association shall be called, THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN SABBATH UNION.

ART. II.—The object of this Union shall be, by the universal diffusion of information, by united example and kind moral influence, to endeavor to persuade all persons to abstain from worldly business, traveling and amusement, and attend the public worship of God on the Lord's day.

ART. III.—All persons who sign this Constitution shall be members of this Union.

ART. IV.—Distinguished friends of the Sabbath, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, may be elected as members of this Union.

ART. V.—Clergymen who pay thirty dollars, and laymen who pay fifty dollars, shall be honorary members of this Union.

ART. VI.—The officers of all local Sabbath Unions formed on the basis of this, shall be members of this Union.

ART. VII.—The officers of this Union shall be a President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor, who shall perform the duties customarily assigned to such officers, and shall hold their offices till others are appointed.

ART. VIII.—There shall be an Executive Committee of five members, who with the Secretaries, who shall be members, ex officio, shall direct and superintend the concerns of this Union; fill such vacancies as may occur in their body between the meetings of the Union, and take such measures as may, in their judgment, be best adapted most extensively to accomplish its benevolent object.

ART. IX.—The Secretary, under the direction of the Executive Committee, shall devote his time and attention to the object of this Union. And in the execution of the duties of his office, he shall make appropriate communications to professors of religion of every name; to professional men, and men in public life; to parents, teachers, and guardians; to youth of all descriptions, and especially such as from their situation are peculiarly exposed to violations of the Sabbath; and set before them the pernicious tendency and ruinous consequences of this degrading and destructive vice; and the great and numerous blessings which are connected with the due observance of that day; and he shall labor in all suitable ways, in connection with the friends of this cause, and in reliance on the Divine blessing, to induce all persons to abstain from worldly business, traveling and amusement, and to attend the public worship of God, on the Lord's day.

And the members of this Union, would ever be deeply impressed with the truth, that while all appropriate means should be diligently and perseveringly employed for the accomplishment of this great and good object, their dependence for success must be placed on Him who is "LOVE OF THE SABBATH," and who can, through human instrumentality, cause it to be remembered and kept, according to his will, throughout the earth.

ART. X.—There shall be an Annual Meeting of this Union to hear the Report of the Executive Committee; appoint officers; and transact such business as may regularly come before it.

ART. XI.—This Constitution may be altered, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, by a vote of two thirds of the members present, at any regular meeting.

The gentlemen present who were disposed, then gave in their names, and became members of the Union.